

**VECTOR READS FOR ARRAY UPDATES**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[0050] An array update operation which specifies number of (row-identifier, value) pairs for updating rows in a table of a database is implemented as follows. A block-identifier of a block (on disk) that holds a row identified by a row-identifier in a specified pair is looked up using a database index, and the block-identifier thus found is stored in a structure. Use of a row-identifier to look up the corresponding block-identifier, and the storage of the block-identifier in the structure are repeatedly performed, for each of several specified pairs. Next, a vector read is performed, to read and store in a cache, each block identified by a block-identifier in the structure, and all the blocks that have been read are stored in the cache during a single function call. Thereafter, rows identified in specified pairs are modified, in blocks currently in the cache, using the values in the specified pairs.